

Subject: Mathematics - Algebra II

Grade: Tenth

Standard: #2 Relations and Functions

Key Concept: Students interpret functions in real-world situations.

Generalization: Students study and report on a function which has been used in a real-world problem.

Background:

This lesson would be a end-of-year culminating activity. It would help students to realize the importance and usefulness of algebra in every day life.

Students choose a tier according to interest in an area or equation of interest to them. A good resource book to use is Five Equations That Changed the World, ISBN # 0-7868-8187-9. This book contains five equations which according to the author have changed the world. You may know of other books which describe the use of equations, functions, or relations in real life situations and/or occupations which would also be appropriate.

Students should select one equation to study and present to the class. Students will present the situation and equation to the class by making a PowerPoint presentation, acting out a skit/play, or demonstrating the equation. Students should work in pairs or triads.

This lesson will take a number of days to complete as students will need time to read and/or research their equation. You may want to assign the material one day, allow several days outside of class for them to develop the presentation, and 1-2 days for the presentations.

This lesson is tiered in *content and product* according to *interest*.

Possible tiers from the above reference chapter titles are listed below.

Tier I: *Apples and Oranges*

Tier II: *Between a Rock and a Hard Life*

Tier III: *Class Act*

Tier IV:     *An Unprofitable Experience*

Tier V:       *Curiosity Killed the Lights*

Assessment:

A rubric for the presentation should be based primarily on organization, presentation skills, and accuracy of the description of the equation. The rubric should be given to the students at the beginning the lesson.